

NEWLAND'S VICTORY.

Continued From Page 5.

closes the mint at Carson?

Mr. Livingston. No; the assay office.

Mr. Newlands. It closes both the mint and the assay office.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Dockery of Missouri, Shafroth of Colorado, Cox of Tennessee and Ogden of Louisiana, supporting Mr. Newlands, and by Bingham of Pennsylvania, Johnson of Indiana and Cannon of Illinois, against the proposition.

The principal opposition came from Mr. Bingham of Pennsylvania, who argued that Carson was but 250 miles from San Francisco, that it was off the line of direct transportation, that it was away from the centers of population and that the coin had to be transported east at an expense. He argued that the mint had fallen into disuse and cited the testimony of Mr. Preston, Director of the Mint, in support of the assertion. The appropriation was vigorously attacked by the Republicans on the grounds of uselessness and that economy demanded its abolition.

Mr. Newlands. Will the gentleman allow me to make an inquiry. The gentleman stated that Carson City was off the line of travel.

Mr. Bingham. Off the main line of the railroad.

Mr. Newlands. I wish to inform that there is a continuous line of railroads, stretching from the north to the south, on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada, of about 400 miles, consisting of three railroads, and these are all contributory to Carson and they all penetrate mining regions of great value and importance, mining regions whose productions are being stimulated every day.

Then followed a running discussion and at the close of the debate Mr. Newlands arose saying:

Mr. Newlands. I only ask for a moment in which to say there are really only three mints now in operation, the San Francisco mint, the Philadelphia mint, and the Carson mint. The Denver mint is not yet in operation, and will not be for a year or more. The Carson mint is the only one that is established within the five or six mining States which produce all the bullion of the country. An appropriation of only \$22,500 is asked in order to maintain this mint. The country is separated from San Francisco and the California coast by the Sierra Nevada Mountains, which constitute a natural division. There are no difficulties whatever with reference to transportation to the Carson mint, and the mining regions absolutely tributary to that mint are sufficient to sustain the operations that are asked for.

Mr. Bingham. I ask for a vote on the amendment.

Mr. Cannon. I want to ask what it is.

The Chairman. The amendment offered by the gentleman from Nevada.

Mr. Cannon. Is it to appropriate for the mint at Carson City?

Mr. Newlands. Yes.

Mr. Cannon. I only want to say one thing, and then I am ready for a vote. I wish to vote whatever is necessary for the public service, and would like to vote for a mint, if it is necessary. I do not blame the gentleman from Nevada, with all my esteem for him, for wanting this appropriation made. If I were in his place, I should do that, because this is a representative government. Now, here is a mint away out there in the mountains, in a great center of population. (Laughter.) Why, there are nearly 45,000 people in that magnificent State; and this is an appropriation of \$22,500 for a mint, or nearly \$1 to each inhabitant. Now, I do not think that is necessary for mint purposes. Perhaps, though, as one of the industries out there, it might be apt. (Laughter.)

Mr. Newlands. It is true the population of Nevada is sparse. I once appeared before the Attorney-General to urge the appointment of a distinguished Judge from Nevada as a Circuit Judge on that coast. He looked at me rather quizzically, and he said: "Mr. Newlands, don't you think that Nevada has had enough, considering the sparseness of her population?" My answer was, "No; not if you consider the brains of her men." And I ask for this as a tribute to the intelligence of Nevada. (Laughter.)

The Chairman. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. Newlands.)

Mr. Bingham. I ask for the reading of the amendment.

The Chairman. The Clerk will read the amendment again, without objection.

The amendment was again read. The question being taken, on a division (demanded by Mr. Newlands) there were—ayes 80, noes 82.

Mr. Newlands. I ask for tellers. Tellers were ordered; and the Chairman appointed Mr. Bingham and Mr. Newlands.

The committee again divided, and the tellers reported—ayes 83, noes 77. The Republicans including Lord and Barham of California vote against Nevada on this question. The vote was led by Speaker Reed himself.

The bill will now be reported to the House with the amendments which have been added thereto and the House will again have an opportunity to vote on each amendment by aye and nay vote. The Republicans have organized a strong fight and will marshal their forces for the final vote. As the majority of the Republicans is about 100 it will be seen that the probable action of the House will be adverse. Mr. Newlands has secured the support

of all the Democrats, Silver men, Populists and Western silver Republicans. Added to this a number of Eastern Republicans will refrain from voting against the Mint out of personal consideration for Mr. Newlands and the only hope is that a sufficient number of Republicans will remain away the day of the vote to allow the combined vote of the Democrats and silver men to carry the day. Mr. Newlands is conducting a vigorous canvass of the House on the question and will make a stubborn resistance. The fact that Speaker Reed left the chair to vote in the Committee of the Whole and was conspicuous by the fact that he led the vote when tellers were demanded is a sufficient indication to the party under his control what his desires are.

It is but one more revelation of the real attitude of the Republican party upon legislation affecting the interests of the west and especially Nevada. They have destroyed our leading industry and now would efface every institution whose memory is in any way connected with that industry.

Washoe on Velvet.

For a number of years past Washoe county has always had a large floating indebtedness, at the close of the books for the year and the opening for the succeeding year and practically requiring the revenue of the next year to settle up the debt of the past.

During the year of 1897 not a single piece of county script has been issued and the year 1898 will open up with plenty of funds on hand.

It was practically settled yesterday that the V. & T. R. R. would at an early day pay its delinquent taxes for the years 1896 and '97 and this of itself is good cause for congratulation.

All road bonds have been paid and only \$2,000 in agricultural bonds are unpaid, one bond of which will be due and will be paid next month. Some of the County officers contemplated a banquet to celebrate the excellent showing of the past year and ring the expense in on the county, but someone suggested that it was out of the question "so to speak" for Beck would want an itemized bill, and about this time Tom Hymers spoke up and remarked, "yes and the d—d Auditor would veto it." Another suggested that any public demonstration in recognition of the present excellent condition of county affairs would put Bragg between the "devil and the deep sea" as he would endeavor to claim that the whole business was the result of the McKinley wave of prosperity, but as all of the county officers except one are "silver party of Nevada" men, or Populists, he would have a hard time explaining how silver men happened to bring about McKinley prosperity. Considering all of these objections the banquet was abandoned.

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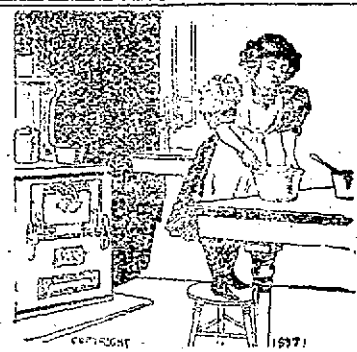
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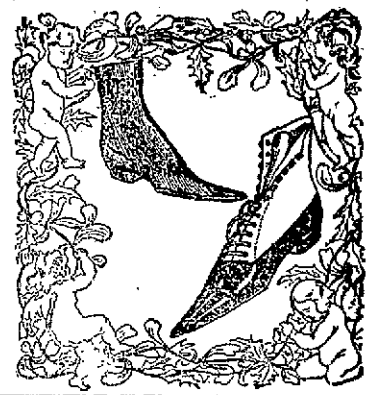
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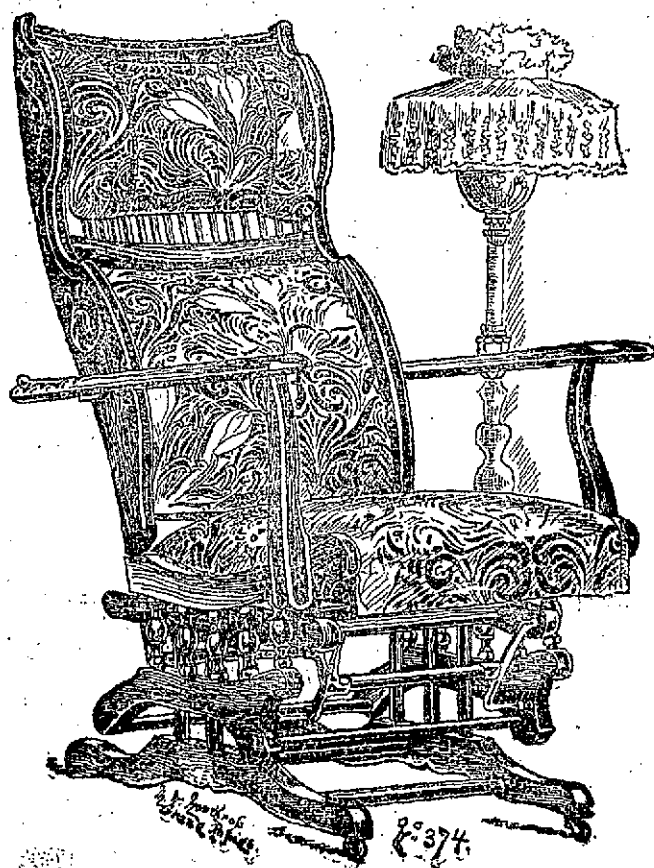
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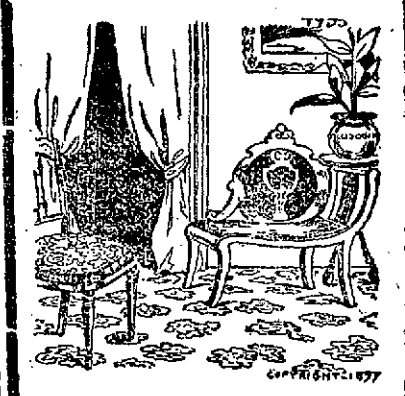
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1897.

BREVITIES.

Skates and sleds at Lange & Schmitt.
Window glass cut all sizes at Lange & Schmitt's.

The finest porter and 'alf and 'alf at the Wieland Brewery.

Bamboo furniture is all the rage for Christmas presents.

Rev. Mr. Freeman and wife were de-partures for California last night.

Chas. Becker's Model is headquarters for fine domestic and imported cigars.

The Wheelmen's ball to-morrow evening promises to be a grand affair.

Mrs. Lake can furnish any character of blank books desired for general business.

Crockery, glassware, tinware and agateware lower than ever at Lang & Schmitt's.

Pearl gloss tooth powder is absolutely harmless. Sold by Reno Drug Company.

Clearance sale of jackets and capes. Must be sold immediately at any figure at Emrich's.

Holidays are approaching. Many articles needed can be bought very cheap at Emrich's.

A pretty window filled with pretty pictures and pretty frames at the Porteous Decorative Co.

See 50-cent column for a new five-room house for rent. Currier & Currier will furnish particulars.

Universal cook and heating stoves, and cheaper grades sold at cost to reduce stock at Lange & Schmitt's.

A handsome set of table linen and napkins is an acceptable present. Emrich is selling them at very low prices.

During Christmas week Miss Gibbs will sell the last of her elegant line of fancy goods at greatly reduced prices. Call early.

Paints to paint on furnished in Persian green and gold frames are the latest. See them at the Porteous Decorative Co.

The lunches at the Granite Saloon cannot be excelled and the beer is served ice cold. A choice stock of wines by the bottle or gallon.

We have many pieces of furniture suitable for Holiday Gifts. We invite inspection of goods and comparison of prices, at the Reno Furniture Store near iron bridge, Virginia St.

Miss Florence Layton entertained a number of young lady friends at her mother's residence yesterday afternoon. Flowers and favors were the order and the whole was an enjoyable occasion.

Wotton, the man arrested on suspicion of committing the Steamboat robbery on last Saturday night, was turned loose yesterday, it being concluded that the evidence was not sufficient to hold him.

Messrs. Muller & Stampf of the Pubst Agency carry an excellent stock of wines and liquors. The wines are especially adapted for medicinal purposes. Orders filled in quantities to suit and all goods guaranteed.

Charles Magill has gone to Trinity county, California to accept a lucrative position. He has been engaged as assayer for a mining company. Charles is a graduate of the State University and is thoroughly posted on his business.

The school moneys received from taxes amounts to \$10,446.88 and will be apportioned to-day. These figures do not include the amount due from the V. & T. R. R. If the company pays before the end of the month, the amount will be greatly increased.

H. M. Yarrington, Wm. E. Sharon and W. E. F. Deal were guests at the Riverside yesterday afternoon. The gentlemen were here on V. & T. tax matters. The fact that Tom Hymers, Tom Julien, Tom Wron and Tom and Jerry were present at the conference led a way to remark that Commissioner Beck as Chairman of the Board held an ace full on "Toms" and in consequence the V. & T. R. R. Company will probably pay its taxes for 1898-7.

Don't fail to attend the Wheelmen's ball to-morrow evening. The music will be grand and to see the drill and decorations will alone be worth the price of admission.

The fire boys presented Chief Hodgkinson on Christmas with a handsome chief's badge of gold. Mr. Hodgkinson appreciates the gift very much and takes great pride in showing it. The boys' appropriate recognition of their chief shows the high esteem they hold him in.

I have just received a complete and well selected stock of gentlemen's furnishings, goods, underwear, over-shirts, socks, suspenders, handkerchiefs, ties, etc., which I guarantee to be equal if not better than any in the town, which I will sell at prices that defy competition. My stock of domestic and imported cigars and tobaccos is complete in every particular, comprising such brands as the Nerve, Carl Dunder and Royal in the 5-cent goods, and El Belmont, Sanchez, Hays, De Vallens, Internations, Hotel Brunswick, General Arthur and many others in the imported goods. Call and be satisfied. Free employment office in connection with the store.

A. NELSON.

NEWLAND'S VICTORY.

HIS FIGHT IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Nevada's Congressman Shows His Mettle Against Bitter Opponents, But Gains His Point.

The legislative and executive appropriation bill which was reported to the House just before the holidays contained no appropriation whatever for the Carson Mint, not even making provision for a watchman and contained no provision for an assay office. The effect of the bill being to abolish both the Mint and the assay office.

Congressman Newlands secured permission to offer an amendment in the Committee of the Whole, and after a vigorous fight, which was considered an entertaining debate, succeeded in securing the passage of the amendment by a close vote, an analysis of which shows that it was made on strictly party lines, the Republican party being almost solidly opposed to the Mint and the Democrats and silver men for it.

The defense made by Nevada's Congressman and the line of argument adopted by him in answering the misrepresentations of eastern Republicans greatly strengthened his case, and can best be appreciated by Nevada people by calling their attention to the running debate on the question in the Committee of the Whole, which is here published in full.

The abolition of the assay office at Deadwood, Dakota, was under discussion just prior to the Carson Mint item and an anticipatory attack on the Carson Mint by Cannon of Illinois brought Mr. Newlands to his feet, and the subjoined is a resume of the debate on that point:

Mr. Newlands. Mr. Chairman, although I have not heard all of this debate, I understand the objection to be urged to the proposition that there are to-day a sufficient number of assay offices belonging to the government of the United States, and that such an office at Deadwood, South Dakota, is not required. Now, I wish to say something with reference to the growth of this business of minting and assaying in the United States. In the early history of our country the mint was established at Philadelphia. Why? Because at that time Philadelphia was very near the center of population—a population not then engaged in any way in the production of the precious metals. All that was necessary then was a mint that would turn into coin the bullion or coin coming in from other countries.

Since that time there has been a great revolution in the production of the precious metals in this country. Rich gold and silver deposits have been discovered in the great west—in the Rocky Mountains, in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Yet, ignoring the fact that the production of silver is in the west, we have been constantly increasing the mintage and assaying facilities of the east. Instead of putting the mints where the mines are, we have been transporting our bullion to the Philadelphia mint, and minting there the products of mines 3,000 miles away. We have been constantly enlarging the Philadelphia mint, at great expense. Now, what would the gentleman from Philadelphia think of me if I should suggest that an armor plate plant to be constructed by the government be placed upon the heights of the Rocky Mountains?

What would he think if it should be suggested that a navy yard should be established upon Lake Tahoe? Yet here we have the proposition gravely urged, Congress after Congress that, though the mineral production of the great west amounts to nearly a hundred million dollars annually, that product shall be transported a distance of 3,000 miles to be coined and minted in the east. We have helped you gentlemen of the east to open your mills, and now you propose to close our mine; and you propose to close them at just those points of production where these two occupations, mining and minting, should be linked together. Where do you have your assay offices? In New York, in St. Louis, in Philadelphia, and even in Charlotte, N. C., to which no objection is made by the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Bingham. All mints have an assay office.

Mr. Newlands. Yes; but there is no mint at St. Louis, although you have an assay office there. For all practical purposes St. Louis is about as remote from the mining regions as Philadelphia. We regard St. Louis as a portion of the great east, not of the great west.

Mr. Bingham. All mints have an assay office.

Mr. Newlands. Yes; but there is no mint at St. Louis, although you have an assay office there. For all practical purposes St. Louis is about as remote from the mining regions as Philadelphia. We regard St. Louis as a portion of the great east, not of the great west.

But how is it with Charlotte, N. C.? Will the gentleman claim that there is necessity for a mint there? If there is any large production of either gold or silver there, that is another question. The Appropriation Committee give a considerable sum for the Charlotte assay office. Now, I have no objection in the world to their having such an office there. If, I repeat, there is any production whatever of gold or silver in North Carolina, that production should be stimulated by the government of the United States, and if the creation of an assay office in the mineral regions will stimulate that industry, I claim that there should be no hesitation in making appropriation for it.

But, Mr. Chairman, I am opposed to the system of appropriating to the east all of the industries that belong to the west, industries that can be properly and economically conducted near the source of production.

I shall have a few more words to say on this subject when the question of the Carson mint shall be reached; but now I rise only for the purpose of saying that I hope the request of the gentleman from South Dakota will be granted, and that the State will be recognized as the fifth mineral-producing State of the country by inserting in the law the amendment he presents.

At this point Cannon of Illinois got the floor, and among other things said: "But," says my very intelligent and learned friend from Nevada, for whom I have very great respect, "presently we shall come to the mint at Carson, and I shall have something to say about that."

Mr. Newlands. Do not anticipate.

Mr. Cannon. If I recollect aright the mint at Carson is omitted from this appropriation. Why? Because when the population of Nevada was larger, and she got her two Senators, away back in boom times, under the cry of benefiting the poor man, we being insufficiently advised, or only established an assay office, but a mint at Carson. I say it with respect, but if you will go back to the appropriation bills, you will find that the officers of that mint, without doing a great deal of mintage, have run a very profitable industry at that point. Now, in fact, we have no more use for an assay office at Deadwood or an assay office in Nevada nor an assay office in these mining camps than we have for any other thing we do not need.

Mr. Newlands. Will the gentleman permit a question?

Mr. Cannon continued on this line of argument.

Mr. Newlands. May I interrupt my friend's athletic exercises for just one observation? (Laughter.)

Mr. Cannon. Certainly. And I hope I shall have developed strength enough to keep you from lifting any more money out of the treasury for a useless mint at Carson.

Mr. Kelley. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike out the last seven words.

Mr. Newlands. I understand that that motion is made for my benefit. I wish to ask the gentleman from Illinois a question.

Mr. Cannon. I will answer it if I can.

Mr. Newlands. Assuming, as is the fact, that there is a United States mint at Philadelphia and one at Carson, and assuming that \$600,000,000 in gold and silver, in almost equal proportions, were produced in the State of Pennsylvania near the Philadelphia mint, what would the gentleman think of the policy of a government which would send that \$600,000,000 of bullion 3,000 miles across the continent to be coined into money? Yet that would be practically equivalent to what is done. Six hundred million dollars of Nevada's gold and silver have gone to the Philadelphia mint.

Mr. Bingham. The gentleman knows that it is the only fully equipped mint in the country.

Mr. Newlands. Well, I do not accuse the gentleman from Pennsylvania of anything like greed, but I do say that all psychologists admit that on these occasions there is a certain unconscious celebration which affects the minds of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts statesmen in regard to every industry of those communities. (Laughter.) Why should we have these \$600,000,000 of gold and silver bullion produced in Nevada dragged to Philadelphia to be

coined into money?

Mr. Bingham. And circulated there. Mr. Cannon. The gentleman from Nevada has asked me a question. Does he desire that I shall answer it?

Mr. Cannon. Then proceeded to attempt to answer Mr. Newlands' question by stating that the mint was too far from the center of population.

A vote was then taken on the Deadwood proposition which carried by a close vote.

Mr. Newlands then gained the floor and proceeded as follows:

Mr. Newlands. Mr. Chairman, I am very much indebted to the gentleman for his courtesy, and I offer the following amendment:

The Clerk read as follows:

Amend paragraph 55 by inserting between lines 17 and 18 the following: "Mint at Carson, Nevada: For Superintendent, \$3,000; assayer, and melter and refiner, at \$2,500 each; chief clerk, \$1,800; bookkeeper, cashier, assistant assayer, assistant melter and refiner, and weigh clerk, at \$1,500 each; in all \$17,300."

"For wages of workmen, \$10,000; for incidental and contingent expenses, including wastage of operative officers and loss on sale of sweeps, \$5,000."

Mr. Newlands. Mr. Chairman, the customary five minutes will not permit me to present all I wish to submit on the subject, and I will ask the indulgence of the House for at least ten minutes.

The Chairman. The gentleman from Nevada asks permission to speak continuously ten minutes. Is there objection? (After a pause.) The Chair hears none.

Mr. Newlands. Mr. Chairman, there are, or were, five mints in the United States: One at Philadelphia, one at San Francisco, one at New Orleans, one in process of construction at Denver, and one at Carson. The mint at Carson is abolished by this act. The question has arisen in the discussion of the last amendment as to where the coinage should properly be done—whether in the East, in the great commercial and banking centers of the country, or in the West, where the bullion is produced—and my learned friend from Illinois (Mr. Cannon) labored under the misapprehension that these assay offices and mints were organized in the Western States with a view of enabling the miners there to get a higher price for their product, unmindful of the fact that so far as gold is concerned—and coinage is now confined to gold, except as to the accumulated stock—it is the privilege of the miner now to take his bullion to the mint and have it turned into coin; that he receives the coin, the Government making no purchase of bullion whatever. The question is whether that convenience should be afforded to him nearer the source of production or 3,000 miles away, in the Eastern States.

And here let me make the suggestion that had the mining regions of this country been opened when our Government was formed, undoubtedly the mints would have been placed nearer the mines, just as every industry is placed near the source of the product with which it deals. There is no doubt that had all the bullion of the country, the gold and the silver, produced during the past thirty years been mined in the West, our financial condition would have been much better, for in that case, with both the gold and silver, the miner would simply have received in payment gold and silver coin. Now, imagine how that would have simplified the silver question. These people in the west were accustomed to the use of metallic money. The people of the East were unaccustomed to the use of metallic money.

Why, metallic money hardly existed for years before the war. It did not exist during the war. The people of the East had become accustomed to paper money and unaccustomed to either silver or gold, and rejected the use of both. So that we had paper in the East in broadest use, whereas on the Pacific Coast and in the mountain States the feeling was quite to the contrary. There they are used to the coin, and do not like the paper money.

I find that I have to revolutionize my own habits twice every year in the way of becoming accustomed to paper and metallic money. I go West and recur to the use of the metallic money, and I find that I do not like to have twenty-dollar gold pieces and silver dollars in my pocket, and after I become accustomed to them I prefer them to paper; and then after awhile, on my return East, I strike paper money again and have no metallic money, and paper money is distasteful to me, for it seems to be the storehouse of contagion of every kind.

Now, this is a mere matter of habit. Had we consulted the habits of the West, we would have permitted the owners of silver bullion to present it at the mint and to receive either its coinage value or its market value, according to existing legislation, in absolute coin, receiving in the one case all and in the other only a part, the difference between the market value and the coinage value being retained by the Government as seigniorage. And what would have been the result? Probably three-fourths or more of the bills of the miners are for wages. The silver coin is paid to the miners, who pay it to the men from whom they obtain their supplies, and the merchants use it in buying flour and grain and clothes and other supplies.

Thus you would find the actual use of silver extending to the entire Western region, where they are accustomed to it, and gradually to the Southern and Middle Western States, where also they are accustomed to it and like it, and you would have a circulation of

the financial question, which interests

this currency in the West, that is a most serious question. Instead of having this silver accumulating in your Treasury, where it constitutes a burden to the world. For recollect that the average intellect does not comprehend that silver is constructively coined and in the hands of the people in the form of silver certificates. The average intellect regards it as an accumulation of silver which, as a result of hostile legislation, may be let loose upon the world and produce a flood of this money.

So I say a wise public policy would have put your mills near your raw products, your mints near your mines, and the result would have been that both gold and silver would, from these centers of production and centers of coinage, have been spread all over the Western and the Southern and the Middle Western region, and would gradually reach the East itself, and accustom the people there to the use of the only real money, the only money of redemption.

Now we come to the question of what justice requires at this time. Philadelphia has thus far appropriated almost all of the coinage of the silver and gold product in the West. Only recently, outside of the legislation relating to the Carson mint, has favorable legislation been introduced relating to the Denver mint, a mint which is not yet completed. Increased appropriations have been made for the Philadelphia mint, while diminishing appropriations have been made for this Western mint.

Now, gentlemen, I wish to say, with reference to Nevada, that the total product of both gold and silver in the United States has been a little less than two billions and a half since 1860, and that Nevada has produced, in almost equal proportions of the two metals, one-fourth of this amount. I said to a friend the other day with reference to this legislation, that it was hardly a graceful action to take away the mint from Nevada, a State which had produced one-fourth of the country's metallic stock, and to add, parenthetically, "And three-fourths of the hell." All I have to say with reference to that is, that this remonstrance from Nevada is a natural remonstrance against legislation which has destroyed the leading industry of that State and paralyzed it.

You can understand what this would mean simply as an industrial question as applied to the iron mills or the steel plants of Pennsylvania, or to the cotton mills and woolen mills of Massachusetts. It is a natural and healthy and indignant protest against what the State of Nevada regards as bad and destructive legislation. Now, it is true that the bullion production of that State has declined. She is no longer producing silver in large quantities. There is no stimulus now for the production of silver, and the people of Nevada have turned their attention to gold. Already this year it is evident that the product of gold will probably be double that of last year. The total of both gold and silver production of that State is now pretty nearly \$5,000,000, of which, I believe, three-fifths is gold.

(Here the hammer fell.)

Mr. Dockery. How much more time does the gentleman desire?

Mr. Newlands. I should like five minutes.

Mr. Dockery. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman's time be extended for five minutes.

There was no objection, and it was so ordered.

Mr. Newlands. As I say, Nevada has produced six hundred millions of gold and silver, and yet she has been permitted to coin at that Nevada mint only forty-nine millions. There is to-day stored up in the Philadelphia mint \$110,000,000 of silver bullion, most of which was produced in the Nevada mines.

Mr. Williams. I should like to ask the gentleman a question for information.

Mr. Newlands. What is the gentleman's question?

Mr. Williams. Does it not cost the people who mine this gold and silver—principally gold now—something to get it to the Philadelphia mint, and would they not have a larger net return when their money were handed back to them if the coinage were done on the spot?

Mr. Newlands. I should think so.

Mr. Williams. Then the practice the gentleman complains of imposes a tax upon these miners for the financial benefit of the people of Philadelphia.

(Laughter.)

Mr. Newlands. Now, I say that at the Carson mint we have coined only forty-nine millions and the actions of the Directors of the Mint has always in my judgment, been hostile to that mint. They have declined against the cost of coinage at the Carson mint.

Gentlemen can readily understand that if they should allow only one pound of bullion to be coined there in a year, the cost of coining that one pound must be the entire salary list of the mint for the year; so that the cost of coinage will depend upon the amount of bullion that is put into the mint to be coined, and if the silver, which is naturally tributary to that mint is taken 3,000 miles away and stored in Philadelphia for coinage, that will necessarily result in a high cost of coinage for the small amount that is permitted to be done at Carson. What I contend is that practically under the appropriation of last year the mint at Carson has simply been turned into an assay office.

The appropriation is a very limited one, and all I ask is the continuation of that appropriation until, at all events, the financial question, which interests

this country so much, is settled, so that we may see the pledge of the Republican party for the restoration of the coinage of silver carried out either by international action or by such form of national action as in their judgment will maintain the two money metals at a parity, or, at all events, until we have witnessed the result of the new seignior for gold in Nevada, which at present gives most encouraging indications, the product of last year being, as I am told, nearly \$3,000,000.

This office at Carson under the present appropriation is already under practically an assay office. The appropriation, I believe, calls for only \$33,000. It seems to me that considering the fact that Nevada is to-day the fourth or the fifth bullion producing State in this country, it is entitled to this recognition by the government, and that its requirements can not be properly and wisely met by the government except by furnishing the customary facilities to the miners of that region. There is already a handsome building there, for which not even a watchman is provided.

Mr. Bingham. Provision of that kind will be made in the sundry civil bill, which provides for the care of the public buildings of the country. That is not done in this bill.

Mr. Dingley. Is it proposed that simply an assay office shall be conducted there, or an assay office and a mint?

Mr. Newlands. The proposition is to keep it as a full mint, but the entire appropriation is cut down from the large amount formerly granted to only \$30,000.

Mr. Bingham. Thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars.

(Here the hammer fell.)

Mr. Bingham. If the gentleman from Nevada desires five minutes more, I ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to proceed.

There was no objection.

With reference to the silver bullion now at the Philadelphia mint, the Director of the Mint testified that they could not coin it fast enough; that they had to work their men, I believe, from sixteen to eighteen hours per day.

Mr. Bingham. That was on the minor coinage.

Mr. Newlands. Yet we have that accumulation there under the Sherman act awaiting coinage; it is impossible to mint that bullion because of the want of mint facilities. In the west we have mint facilities. We have this amount of bullion properly belonging to that region, and the only reasons given for the discontinuance of this mint has been that the bullion which we produce has been taken from us to Philadelphia.

Mr. Dingley. Before the gentleman takes his seat, I should like to ask a question for information. Is any silver bullion purchased under the Sherman act coined at the Carson mint?

Mr. Newlands. There has been. I am not aware that there is any now.

Mr. Dingley. Then there would be nothing coined there except gold?

Mr. Newlands. I presume so, though I am not informed.

Mr. Dockery. Now, if an assay office gold bullion can be deposited and the check of the Government given therefor, just the same as would be done at a mint. The bullion owner gets precisely the same privilege at an assay office as at a mint. When the gold bullion is deposited, he receives a check from the Government at once for the amount of coin which the bullion represents although it is not at once coined. Thus that bullion is practically converted into money at the mint price. The person bringing the bullion there never has to wait for his money and the bullion is coined.

The privilege in this respect of the bullion owner is precisely the same as an assay office as at a mint.

Mr. Newlands. If what the gentleman states is done, I think it is very bad policy. I think the man who brings the bullion ought to get the coin which that bullion produces, and he ought to get that coin as near to the point of production as possible. The point of the production of the bullion ought to be the center for the distribution of the money.

Mr. Shafer. As I understand, this bill discontinues the office at Carson City, even as an assay office.

Mr. Dingley. I so understand. The object of my inquiry was to ascertain what the amendment proposes. As I understand, the proposition is to have both an assay office and a mint at Carson.

Mr. Shafer. Yes, sir.

Mr. Newlands. With reference to the gold deposits at Carson, the Director of the Mint says that in the year preceding they amounted to \$700,000. Yet at New Orleans, where the same appropriation is made as heretofore, the mint deposits were only \$250,000, while at St. Louis they were only from \$100,000 to \$300,000. From these figures gentlemen can judge the absolute unfairness with which this question has been treated. In consideration of the fact that this whole question of coinage is now awaiting the financial legislation of the next two or three years, it seems to me an unwise thing to close any of the mints of the United States. I submit that they should be continued with their corps of officers, with the full equipment necessary for the work which they are to undertake, and that the Carson mint deserves the limited amount asked for.

Mr. Fleming. Before the gentleman takes his seat, will he allow me to ask him a question?

Mr. Newlands. Yes, sir.

Mr. Fleming. As I understand it, the bill as presented by the committee

